

WASHINGTON, DC—Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) is pleased to announce that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has allocated \$250,000 in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's allotment for civil works programs for watershed projects in Delaware and Chester Counties.

"This funding, made available through the economic stimulus, will help provide for the health and management of our waterways," said Congressman Sestak. "There are too many of my constituents that I don't have to remind about the consequences of neglecting our waterways. My District deals routinely with the runoff and flooding problems that these programs will begin to address, while also supporting quality jobs in our local economy."

The \$250,000 in Recovery Act funds requires 20% non-federal matching funds. There are two stream restoration projects in the 7th Congressional District that, if they are able to provide matching funds, are being considered for that funding: Albert's Run in Springfield Township and Darby/Cobbs stream restorations in Haverford Township. Funding of the Albert's Run Stream Restoration Project in Springfield will allow the initiation of design for the restoration of approximately 1,100 feet of the "urban and degraded" stream. Funding of the Darby/Cobbs Stream Restoration Project in Haverford will allow the initiation of design for the restoration of channelized and eroded stream channels that contribute to flooding.

This newly announced funding is in addition to \$500,000 allocated for Cobbs Creek habitat restoration, which will fund the design of approximately 1.2 miles of channel restoration from the Millbourne Dam downstream to Marshall Road to meet up with the existing restoration project. The \$4.6 billion of Recovery Act funding provides the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with tremendous opportunities to help support the nation during this time of economic hardship. The Corps will quickly put these funds into action to meet the President's and Congress's intent to get citizens back to work. At the same time, every effort will be made to ensure these funds are effectively used in ways that will provide lasting value to the nation and the American taxpayer.

Economists estimate that USACE will directly create about 8,000 jobs for every \$1 billion spent. It is also estimated that an additional 20,400 jobs will be indirectly created for each \$1 billion spent in industries that supply or support construction, operation and maintenance (O&M) activities, and the industries that sell goods and services to these workers and their families. The \$4.6 billion provided for the civil works program includes \$2 billion for construction and \$2.075 billion for O&M.

Projects selected for funding will provide the nation with inland and coastal navigation, environmental, flood risk management, hydropower, recreation, and more.

The legislation sets forth project selection criteria for projects that will:

Be obligated/executed quickly

Result in high, immediate employment

Have little schedule risk

Be executed by contract or direct hire of temporary labor

Complete either a project phase or a project, or will provide a useful service that does not require additional funding.

For more information about these projects, contact Ed Voigt of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at 215-656-6515, or contact the townships directly: Springfield Township: 610-544-1300; Haverford Township: 610-446-1000.

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.

###